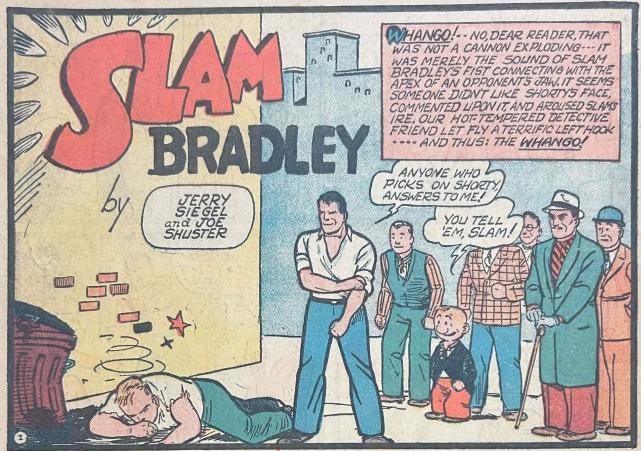




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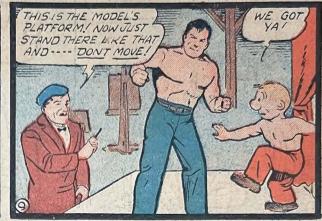








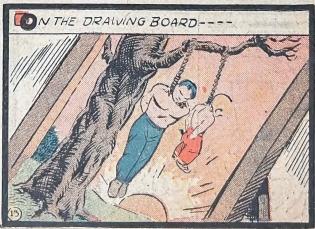


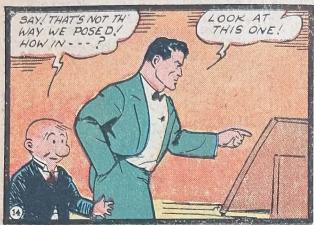


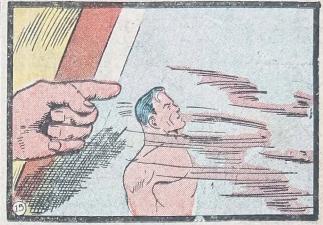


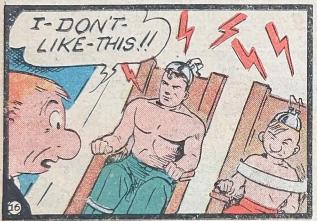






















































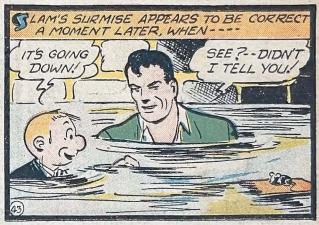




















































































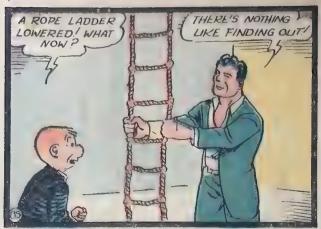














































ORNEY MALONE AT THE / GIVEN BY THE WEALTHY OVERHEARS A QUARREL. HOUSE PARTY VAN DORNS



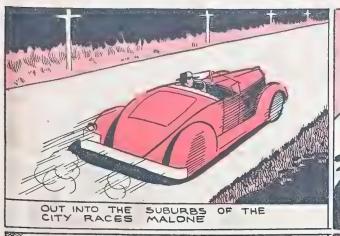


GETTING STEVE, MY UNGLE IS UNBEARABLE HE WON'T LET ME MARRY NANCY - OH HE WON'T LET HIS ME DO ANYTHING SAYSO! I TELL YO WITHOUT TIRED OF IT TELL YOU I'M



































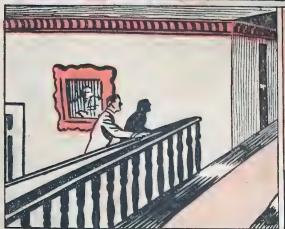




























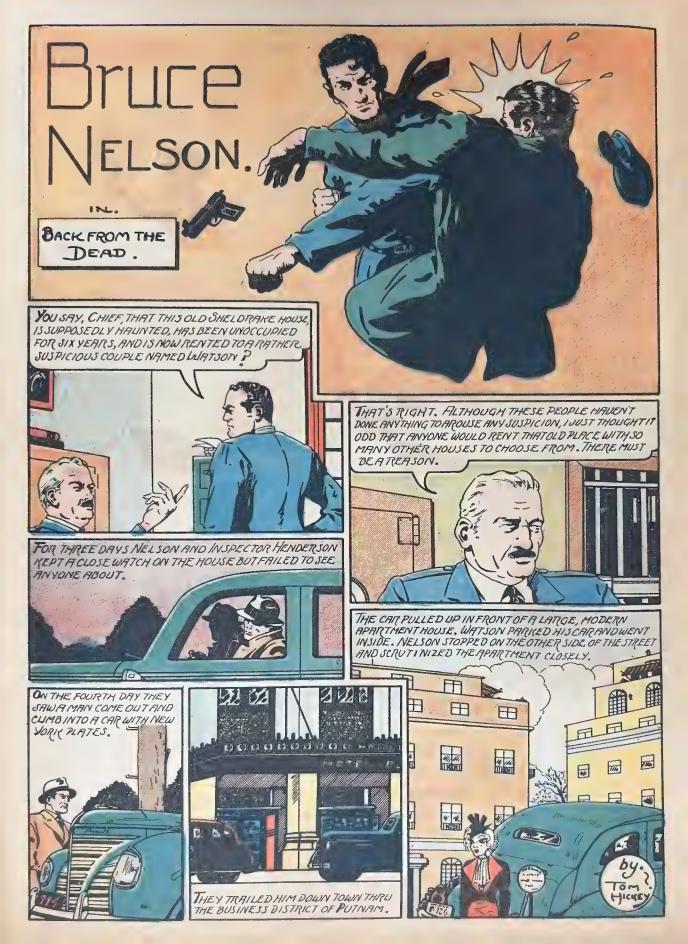


YOU SEE, THERE IS BLOOD ON THE
COMPACT - UNDERNEATH IT. THE COMPACT
WAS PLACED ON THE DESK AFTER
THE MURDER WAS COMITTED IF
MISS LEE HAD DONE THE KILLING
SHE WOULD NOT HAVE PUT THE
COMPACT DOWN THEN.

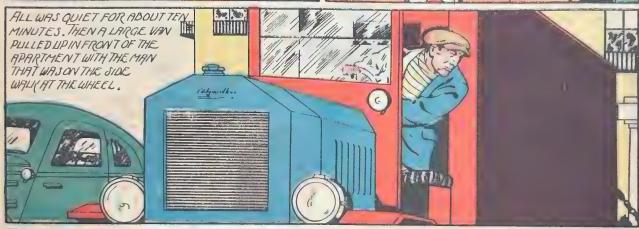


















NO, I'M GOING TO WAIT FOR WAITSON. HE'S THE MAIN



THINK WATSON'S WISE TOUS FOLLOWING HIM. HE'S TAKING US OUT INTO THE COUNTRY, TRYING TO SHAKE US. I'M GOING TO CUT BACICINTO TOWN. I'VE A HUNCH WE'LL



HENDERSON, I'VE GOT TO GET INTO THAT HOUSE!
- I'VE GOT A PLAN! LISTEN! - TOHORROW

THE NEXT DAY FINDS NELSON DRESSED IN THE UNIFORM OF THE DRAKE COUNTY LIGHTING-COMPANY.

WENTY MINUTES LATER THEY NEARED WATSON'S MOUSE

LOOK! THERE IN THE DRIVEWAY! THAT'S THE VAN!

NOW HENDERSON, KEEP YOUR EYES ON WATSON'S HOUSE. IF I DON'T COME OUT IN HALF AN HOUR YOU AND MCMILLAN HERE COME AFTER ME.



NELSON KNOCKED AT WATSON'S REAR DOOR. A LARGE, HANDSOME WOMAN ANSWERED.



JIM! HERE'S A MAN FROM THE LIGHTING COMPANY TO CHECK THE ELECTRIC METER.



MATSON APPEARED IN THE DOORWAY. AS NELSON STARTED FOR WHAT LODICED TO BE THE CELLAR DOOR, HE SPOKE



THAT'S THE WRONG DOOP. IT'S THATONE OVER THERE.









THIS PLACE IS GETTING TOO HOT CAROL. I'M AFRAID THE COR ARE ON TOUS. WELL HAVE TO BLOW. GET THE CAROUT OF THE GARAGE AND RUN IT LIPCLOSE TO THE BACK DOOR.







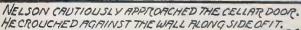




NELSON THREWALL OF HIS 190 POUNDS OF BOTHE AND MUSCLE AGAINST THE DOOR. IT SHUDDERED BUTHELD.

ONCE RGAIN HE THIREWHIS WEIGHT AGAINST THE DOOR. THERE WAS A TEARING, SPLINTERING SOUND AND NELSON PLUNGED OUTINTO THE KITCHEN.







WHILE WATSON WAS TALKING NELSON ATTEMPTED TO TAKE HIM UNAWARES. HE SHOWED HIMSELF AND INSTANT AND FIRED RAPIDLY INTO THE DARK CELLAR.









AN ANSWERING WOLLEY ECHOED UP THE STAIRS. ONEOFTHE SHOTS PIERCED THE ARM OF NELSON'S WIND BREAKER DEFORE























































































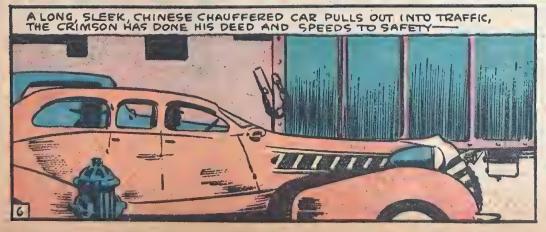














THE kindly faced, white haired gentleman, bent with age and supported by an ebony cane, approached Miss Benson's desk. The comely young lady was secretary to Henry Sumner, president of the wealthy and famous jewelry house of Halsey Bryant and Company.

"I would like to see Mr. Sumner, please," the elderly man said.

"Have you an appointment?" ask-

ed the secretary.
"Yes, indeed," the man replied. "I spoke to Mr. Sumner yesterday on the phone. We made an appointment for this morning."

"Will you have a chair and I'll see if Mr. Sumner is busy?" The young lady entered the president's private office and reappeared shortly.

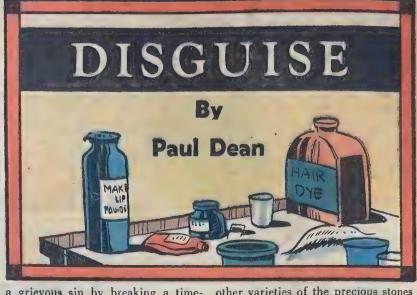
"Mr. Sumner will see you immediately. Won't you step in?" Miss Benson held the door open and closed it when the aged gentleman had passed through.

Back of a large, glass topped desk sat Mr. Sumner, florid and hearty. He rose instantly and offered the white haired man a comfortable lea-

ther seat.

"I'm very happy you came, Mr. Browne," said the president. "Now tell me a bit more clearly what you wish me to do for you. You mentioned something on the phone yesterday about appraising a valuable string of pearls, is that correct?"

The old man dug into his coat and drew out a long, velvet box. "Yes, you're quite right, Mr. Sumner. This particular string has been in the family for many generations and though I feel as if I'm committing



a grievous sin by breaking a timehonored tradition, I must of necessity dispose of it. The bonds and other investments I hold are practically worthless and these pearls are the last of a once wealthy estate. However, in this day and age one must make his own livelihood and that is why I would like to have you appraise the string to ascertain its true worth, before I place it on the market for public sale."

"May I see the string?" asked

The elderly man opened the case and lifted out a string of beautifully matched pink pearls. Sumner took them in his hand and bent over to scrutinize them more carefully . . . and that was the last conscious thing he remembered for quite some time.

With a swiftness certainly not to be seen in aged persons, the white haired man grasped a blackjack trom his pocket and brought it down on the back of Sumner's head. The president slumped in his chair senseless, the pearls slipping through his fingers onto the glass top of the desk.

Silently, the white haired man leaped from the desk and tip-toed across the carpet to the door. He turned the key without a sound. He crossed the floor again to the large safe that stood in the corner of the room back of Sumner's desk. A few expert twirls of the knob and presently the heavy door swung open, revealing numerous small compart-

Very methodically, he emptied the contents of the trays on the top shelves of the safe into a thick cloth sack. There were diamonds, cut and uncut, emeralds, rubies and many

other varieties of the precious stones of the world . . . the whole haul being worth, in round numbers, close to \$500,000.

He replaced the trays in their pigeon-holes and closed and locked the safe. Returning to the desk, he picked up the string of pearls and dropped it in his pocket. Then taking out a small mirror, he carefully studied his facial features to see that they were as they should be. Satisfied, he took his belongings, cane, hat and gloves and walked to the door. He unlocked it as soundlessly as he had turned the key five minutes before, and stepped into the outer office.



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As he was closing the door, he called back, presumably for the purpose of having Miss Benson hear: "Thank you kindly, Mr. Sumner. I sincerely trust I'll have the pleasure of doing business with you again."

He shut the door to the private office and walked slowly past the secretary's desk. He smiled kindly and wished her a pleasant good-day. Ambling down the aisle between the jewelry counters, he opened the front door and was soon lost in the stream of people moving constantly past the store.

It wasn't until fifteen minutes later that Miss Benson walked into Mr. Sumner's private office and found the president sprawled over his desk, unconscious but still breathing.



N a small apartment in a squalid boarding house on the East side, the white haired man stood before a mirror. Towel in hand, he industriously wiped off the make-up grease and powder that had been so cleverly applied as to deceive even the closest observer of the man's real age and identity.

He pulled off the white wig and brushed his own coal-black hair into place. From his appearance he was a man in the neighborhood of thirtyfive years of age, well-built and in

perfect condition.

"Well, Kurt Harvey, you did right well by yourself today," he said to his smiling reflection in the mirror. "Almost half a million in gems and practically as easy as taking a breath of air. Not bad at all, for a lew hours work. . . I'm mighty proud of you, Kurt!"

He packed all his clothes and placed the stolen jewels in a velvetlined leather belt around his waist. The wig was destroyed by the simple method of burning it, He adjusted his tie, put on his hat and left the apartment . . . "and for good," he murmured to himself.

At the corner he called a taxi and gave the driver instructions to take him to the Imperial Steamship piers on West Street. He had purchased his ticket several months before, in preparation for just this event. On



the high seas he was virtually outside the arms of the law and once in Europe, they would never find him. He smiled proudly at his own cleverness and lit a cigarette.

He alighted at the pier, paid the driver off and made his way toward the gangplank. He was about to ascend when a hand was placed on his shoulder in a restraining fashion.

"Just one moment, Harvey," a voice said. "There are a few things

we'd like to ask you!"

The color drained from Harvey's face and he spun around to stare at two grim-looking detectives. They marched him into the small customs room at the end of the pier and without further ado, proceeded to search him. They found the stolen gems in the leather belt. All the strength left Harvey's body and he sank onto a chair, completely exhausted and unnerved.

"But how did you know?" he asked the detectives. "How did you find out?"

"Very simply," one of them replied. "When you opened Sumner's safe, you left a mark on the side of the door."

"I couldn't have left fingerprints

... I wore gloves!"

The detective laughed. "It wasn't a fingerprint . . . it was make-up powder! And from our records we knew that there are only three gem crooks who are clever enough and who have herve enough to pull a job like the Sumner one with the aid of disguise."

"But why me?" asked Harvey. "What about the other two?"

"The other two are serving terms in prison . . . you were the only one left!" And the detective placed the handcuffs on Harvey's wrists.

THE END



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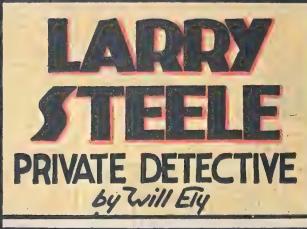
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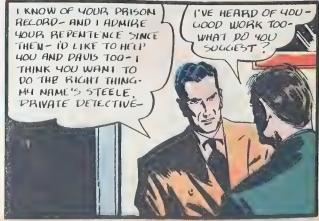


































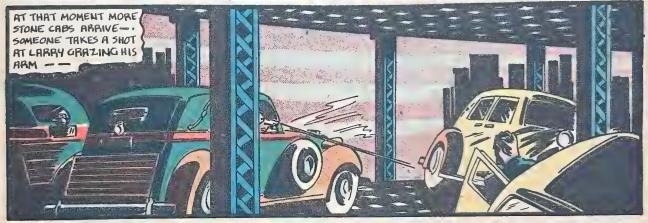
















IN SHORT ORDER THE ENTIRE BENSON MOB IS BEATEN









Greba Eltham told Nayland Smith about her adventure of the previous day on the train from London: "Father and I fell asleep in our compartment almost as soon as we entered the train. I thought it odd when father began to nod, and when I felt myself slipping into a doze I was frightened. But I could not keep awake . . ."



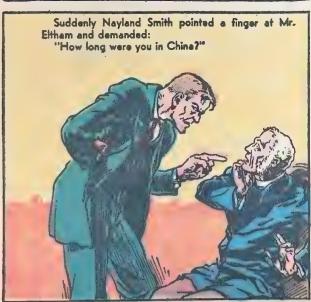




















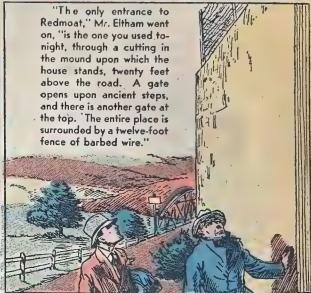
"J. D. Eltham . . . "I began, dimly remembering.
"Is 'Parson Dan'," rapped Smith, "the 'Fighting Missionary', who with a garrison of a dozen cripples and a German doctor held the hospital at Nan Yang against two hundred Boxers!"

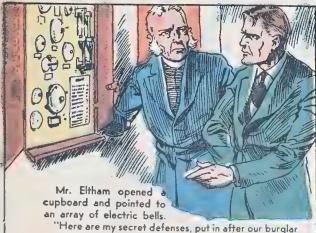




In the library after a very pleasant dinner, at which we were joined by Vernon Denby, Eltham's nephew, the clergyman stood upon the hearth rug and pronounced:

"Redmoat has lately become the theater of strange doings."





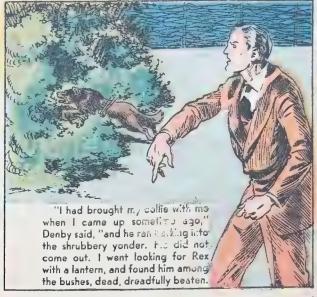
"Here are my secret defenses, put in after our burglar scare of a year ago. An attempt to scale the wire or force the gates sets a bell ringing . ."

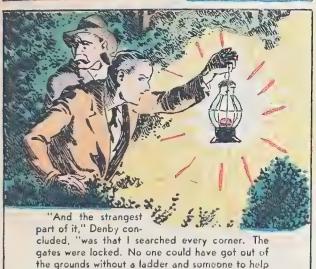
Smith interrupted sharply:

"It wasn't the burglar's visit that caused these precautions! What was it?"









him. But there was no sign of a living thing to be

found! Who killed Rex, then?"





-from my friend, the Mandarin Yen-Sun-Yat.



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JAMAICA'S NEW ISSUE

British "New Reign" postage paper was largely responsible for making 1938 the fourth most productive year in postal history. By this time, of course, all major dominions and colonies have entered their contributions in this class of stamps, but there are still sufficient new issues coming through to give 1939's world output considerable boost.

Jamaica, "Queen of the Antilles", is the latest British colony to make its postal bow to King George VI. Fourteen values make up the new set featuring many scenes on the island, which is the largest and most important of the British West

The ½ pence green, 1p red and 1½p brown are portrait stamps, and each of the higher values bears a profile portrait of the king in the upper left, except for the 10 shilling value which has the portrait centered.

Briefly, the designs are as follows: 2 pence green and gray-black —Coco palms; 2½p ultramarine and green -Castleton; 3p green blue banana 4p dark plantation: green and brown orange grove; 6p violet and brown - view on Priestman's River: 9p brown-Kingston Harbor; 1 shilling light green and red-brownsugar plantation; 2sh ultramarine and dark brown—bamboo walk; 5sh ochre and blue scene on island; 10sh dark green - coat of arms

A description of Jamaica written by an eye-witness (which we regret to say we are not) reads like an account of Utopia. Scenery of unrivalled loveliness, delightful climate, exceptionally fine facilities for motoring, fruit so abundant that the merest exertion is sufficient to stave off hunger. Surely enough inducement to make one dash forthwith to the nearest tourist office and procure tickets for a Jamaican visit. A desire that will be greatly heightened when you see the new stamps—a thought that may not have been far from the designer's mind

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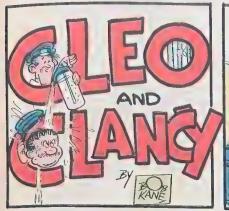
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THE BATMAN! This new thrilling adventure strip starts in the May issue of **DETECTIVE COMICS!** Don't miss it!













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TO!

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AW

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NO JOHNNY, YOU CAN'T COME IN, WERE REHEARSING FOR THE PARTY











A ROSATI, 42 E 20th St. N. Y Please send me the FREE ROS CATALOGUE NAME ADDRESS STATE
--



THE PHANTOM OF DISGUISE

THE FREIGHTER 'CORAL SEA' 13 HEAVILY GUARDED AS AN ENORMOUS FORTUNE IN GOLD BARS IS BEING LOADED FOR A SEC RET ORIENTAL DESTINATION.



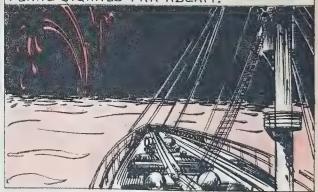
THE PASSENCERS BOOKED ARE CLOSELY CHECKED ON.



UNDER COVER OF NIGHT THE SHIP SLIPS OUT OF NEW YORK HARBOR

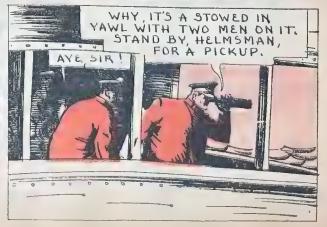


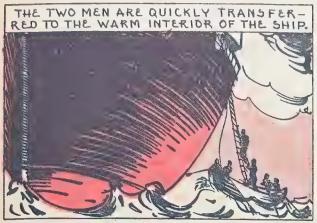
BEFORE DAYBREAK THE LOOKOUT ESPIES FLARE SIGNALS FAR ABEAM.



HE CALLS CAPTAIN ROBERTSON.











WE ARE GREATLY INDEBTED TO YOU CAPTAIN ROBERTSON-FORTUNATELY THERE WERE NO OTHERS-I AM DOCTOR MARSTON-THIS IS MY COLLEAGUE, RAOLF BARDOU







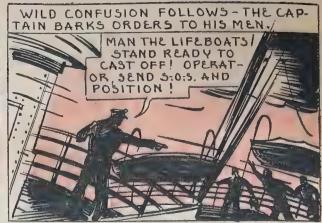


THAT NIGHT TWO FIGURES MOVE STEALTHILY ABOUT THE SHIP.

EASY NOW, DAN, ANOTHER HALF HOUR AND WE'LL BE THE RICHEST MEN IN









BUT RACING FROM THE SCENE A POWER-ED LIFE BOAT CUTS FOR SHORE, IN IT ARE TWO MEN AND THE CARGO OF GOLD.



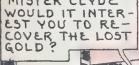




COSMO READS THE NEWS WITH GREAT







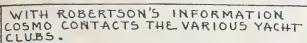
WHAT! 30 MILLIONS? WHOEVER CAN RAISE. THE SUNKEN GOLD WILL BE MADE INDE-PENDENT FOR LIFE.













AT 867-53 Rd ST. A ROUGH LOOKING SEAMAN IS WATCHING THE ENTRANCE DOOR.



IN A WHILE A MAN EMERGES AND WALKS RAPIDLY TOWARD EAST RIVER-THE SAILOR FOLLOWS HIM.









TOWARD EVENING THE BOAT APPROACHES A DENSELY WOODED SECTION OF LONG ISLAND.













CAUTIOUSLY HE CREEPS UP TO THE MAIN CABIN AND LISTENS -

BUT DAN,
HOW'LL WE
TALS WON'T BOTHER WITH
QUESTIONS WHERE WE
GOT THE GOLD. WE COULD
NEVER DUMP IT IN EUROPE
OR AMERICAS. WE'LL GET
THEIR CURRENCY,
CHANGE IT TO
AMERICAN AND
THEN WE'LL BE
WEALTHY BEYOND DREAMS.

SUDDENLY THE BOAT LURCHES AND COSMO FALLS AGAINST THE DOOR.



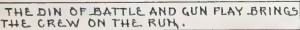








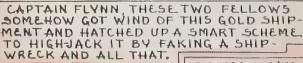








ASHORE COSMO SUMMONS THE HARBOR POLICE.











































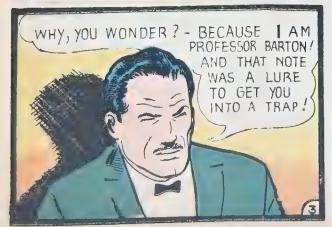












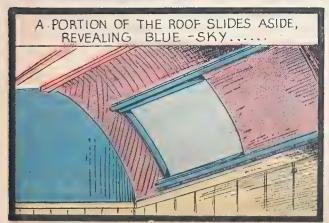




















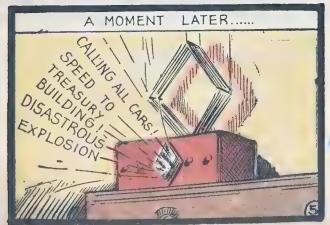






























SPEED SAUNDERS

ACE INVESTIGATOR

BASKETBALL MYSTERY

BY FRED GUARDINEER

SPEED HAS BEEN CALLED ON THE PHONE BY MANNIX, MANAGER OF THE FAMOUS ROYALS BASKETBALL TEAM. MANNIX IS VERY MYSTERIOUS AND TELLS SPEED TO COME TO THE ARENA RIGHT AWAY SPEED LEAVES HIS HOTEL AND...









THE ROYALS ARE PRACTISING

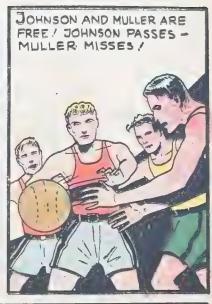






FARO FLEMING COOLY WATCHES



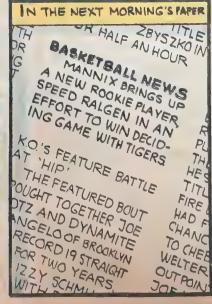














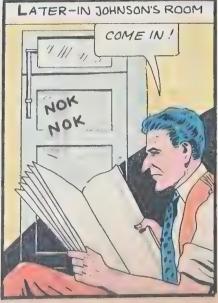


I SEE! AND











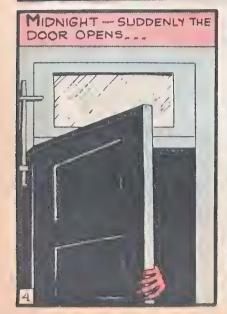


































PREPARED FOR THIS SITUATION SPEED TIES A ROPE TO THE RADIATOR AND DESCENDS OUT OF THE WINDOW...



MEANWHILE FARO HAS GONE DOWN TO THE MAIN FLOOR AND IS CALMLY LEAVING THE HOTEL-MINUS HIS MASK!



BUT FARO IS FOILED BY THE FICKLE FINGER OF FATE AS THE EVER-ALERT DETECTIVE POUNCES ON HIS PREY---









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